



Volume 31, Number 5
September-October 2017

Grand Lodge International Ship Masters' Association

ISMA LETTER

ISMA Flag Flies at Soo

A big thank you to all the members and local lodges who contributed to ensure that an ISMA flag would be flown at the Soo. Here is a photo from the Locks, courtesy of Detroit Lodge #7 member **Ray Oset**.

Capt. **Lee W. Barnhill**
Grand Lodge President

Note: There will be future costs to replace the flag as necessary, so this will be discussed at the upcoming convention in Toledo to get member feedback and possibly put this into the budget.



2018 ISMA Convention

The 128th Annual International Ship Masters' Convention will be held February 2-4, 2018, at the Renaissance Toledo Downtown Hotel, with events at the National Museum of the Great Lakes, Toledo, OH. Watch for more information as the dates get closer.

From the Lodges

Detroit Lodge No. 7:

Lodge #7's Annual Meeting and Election of Officers is scheduled for Saturday, January 6, 2018, at J. W. Westcott Co., with lunch at noon and the meeting beginning at 1:00 PM.

Lodge #7 has also announced that their 127th Annual Dinner Dance will be Saturday, February 17, 2018, at ConCorde Inn Clinton Township, 44315 N. Gratiot Avenue, Clinton Township, MI 48036, 800-310-4665.

Lodge #7 member **Wayne Sapulski**, Great Lakes lighthouse historian, photographer, and author, together with his wife **Jennifer Tregembo** (shown below), guided three fundraising events for the Great Lakes Lighthouse Keepers Association (www.gllka.com) in 2017. The events included a private tour for 40 of the privately-owned and restored Port Sanilac Lighthouse; a five-day, four-night excursion for 80 people to the



lighthouses of northern Lake Michigan and Green Bay; and a two-day, two-night excursion to the lighthouses of the eastern Straits of Mackinac, the St. Marys River, and Whitefish Bay.

ISMA Membership Applications
Available Online at
www.shipmaster.org/learn-more.html



Members in the News

On August 11, 2017, the online financial media outlet Benzinga ran an article about J. W. Westcott Co. and the mailboat titled "On The Detroit River, America's Only Floating Post Office Blends Tradition And Technology." The illustrated article included Detroit Lodge #7 members **Sam Buchanan**, **Bill Redding**, and **Bill Griffore**. View the piece at <https://www.benzinga.com/general/topics/17/08/9912515/on-the-detroit-river-americas-only-floating-post-office-blends-traditio>.

FINAL BELLS

Carl L. Hayes, honorary member of Georgian Bay-Huron Lodge #15, passed away on March 15, 2017, at the age of 90. He was a World War II veteran, having served in the Canada Merchant Navy, and was past Director of the Southern Ontario Branch of the Canada Merchant Navy Veterans Association. **Carl** was preceded in death by his wife **Kathleen** and is survived by his daughter **Linda Hayes**.

Captain **James Daleski** (#10357), ISMA Past Grand President (1986) and member of Northeast Michigan Lodge #19, passed away on August 20, 2017, at the age of 87. Services were held on August 23 in Alpena. ISMA members who attended the 2017 Grand Lodge Convention in Alpena may remember that **Jim** attended the convention. He also received the Lewis Ludington Award, presented through Detroit Lodge #7, in 2016. He's shown in this photo from the convention with Grand President **Lee Barnhill**.



Captain **James N. VanDongen** (#10796), long-time secretary-treasurer of Muskegon Lodge #21, passed away unexpectedly on September 11, 2017, at the age of 73. A US Navy veteran, he retired in 2004 from American Steamship Company, where he last served as Master of MV *Indiana Harbor*. **Jim** was preceded in death by his wife **Linda**, and is survived by two sons. Services were held on September 15 in Muskegon.

NEW MEMBERS

Cleveland Lodge #4:

Active Professional:	Michael Bobincheck	#13043
	James R. Holcepl	#13041
Associate:	Adelbert Balunek	#A-13042

Toledo Lodge #9:

Associate:	Kim M. Dusseau	#A-13040
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HAVE **YOU** SIGNED UP A
NEW MEMBER RECENTLY?

JONES ACT POLL

Lake Carriers' Association and the American Maritime Partnership urged a "NO" vote on the Jones Act poll at the link below. Though the poll is no longer active, you can view the results.

<https://www.bizjournals.com/pacific/pulse/poll/is-now-the-time-to-modernize-the-jones-act/21125291>

NWS Soliciting Public Input

The US National Weather Service (NWS) is soliciting public comments about its proposed consolidation and reformatting of Marine Watches, Warnings, Advisories (WWA) and Statements. NWS is asking professional mariners as well as recreational boaters to review and comment on the proposed changes. For additional details see http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/notification/pns17-31hazsimp_marine.htm. To take the survey, go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SRZFG2X>.

For information and to apply for an

ISMA SCHOLARSHIP

go to

www.shipmaster.org

And follow the Scholarship links on the
home page.

Coming Events in Detroit

- ♦ The Lost Mariners Remembrance Ceremony will be held on November 10, 2017, at Dossin Museum on Belle Isle. Early-bird tickets are available for the annual event, which usually sells out, at <https://detroithistorical.org/shop/tickets/18th-annual-lost-mariners-remembrance>.
- ♦ The annual Great Lakes Memorial Service will be held on Sunday, November 12, 2017, at Mariners' Church, 170 E. Jefferson Avenue, Detroit.

Industry Newsbriefs –

- The US Coast Guard Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee (MERPAC) and its working groups will meet October 26-27, 2017, at the USCG National Maritime Center, Martinsburg, WV. Additional details and agenda can be found at <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2017/09/22/2017-20209/merchant-marine-personnel-advisory-committee>.
- The US Coast Guard Merchant Mariner Medical Advisory Committee (MEDMAC) and its working groups will meet October 18-19, 2017, at the USCG National Maritime Center, Martinsburg, WV. Additional details and agenda can be found at <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2017/09/22/2017-20208/merchant-mariner-medical-advisory-committee>.
- The US Coast Guard is seeking members to serve on the Area Maritime Security Committee (AMSC), Eastern Great Lakes, and four regional sub-committees. Applications for membership must be submitted to the Federal Maritime Security Coordinator (FMSC), Buffalo, by November 6, 2017. Potential members should have at least five years of expertise related to maritime or port security operations. For more information, see <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2017/10/05/2017-21486/area-maritime-security-advisory-committee-amsc-eastern-great-lakes-and-regional-sub-committee>.
- The US Coast Guard is seeking applicants for seven positions on the Navigation Safety Advisory Council. Completed applications must reach the USCG by October 23, 2017. For more information on requirements and submitting an application, see <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2017/08/22/2017-17749/navigation-safety-advisory-council-vacancies>.
- The US National Maritime Center has a permanent position available for someone with a shipboard deck officer background to assist with evaluation and approval of training courses and programs, qualified assessors, designated examiners, and instructors. Information and application instructions can be found at <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/480998600> and <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/481000700>.
- On September 7, 2017, the National Maritime Center announced it is soliciting resumes for membership on a work group charged with reviewing the Merchant Mariner examinations. Requests for membership must be received by the USCG by November 10, 2017. For full information, see http://www.dco.uscg.mil/Portals/9/NMC/pdfs/announcements/2017/sec-tion_315_working_group_website_solicitation_090617.pdf.
- On September 20, 2017, the US Coast Guard published in the *Federal Register* a corrected version of the Final Rule – Great Lakes Pilotage Rates 2017 Annual Review (which had originally been published on August 31). To view the corrected version, see <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2017/09/20/C1-2017-18411/great-lakes-pilotage-rates-2017-annual-review>.
- The Great Lakes Commission (GLC) held its annual meeting in Duluth on September 19-20, 2017. On the agenda were regional issues including invasive species, tribal treaty rights, and billions of dollars in public works repairs needed to keep the lakes clean. The GLC was established by the Great Lakes Basin Compact in 1955 to help eight member states speak with a unified voice on Great Lakes regional issues. Ontario and Quebec joined in 1999. See www.glc.org for more.
- At a Duluth news conference in connection with the Great Lakes Commission's September meeting, Rep. **Rick Nolan** (D-MN) advocated for a new lock at the Soo. **John Linc Stine**, vice chair of the GLC, noted that Homeland Security "projected that a six-month unplanned closure of the Poe Lock at the Soo would result in a nightmare scenario for our economy." An earlier 3-day shutdown this summer provided a glimpse of what the damage could be – the US Army Corps of Engineers estimated it cost vessel operators \$2.9 million.
- As of August 31, 2017, the St. Lawrence Seaway reported it was more than 13 percent ahead of 2016 in overall tonnage shipped. Vessel transits were up more than 10 percent from a year earlier.
- On September 20, 2017, representatives of CN and Duluth Cargo Connect, plus other officials and customers, held a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the new Duluth Intermodal Terminal.
- The Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Governors and Premiers convene in Detroit, MI, and Windsor, ON, from October 20-22 for their 2017 Leadership Summit.
- The US Coast Guard announced that a new set of sample merchant mariners exams is available on the National Maritime Center website. Find them at <http://www.dco.uscg.mil/Our-Organization/Assistant-Commandant-for-Prevention-Policy-CG-5P/National-Maritime-Center-NMC/Examinations/>.
- In mid-August, the US EPA announced that the US Draft Domestic Action Plan for Lake Erie was available for public comment until September 29, 2017. Read the plan at https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2017-08/documents/us_dap_preliminary_draft_for_public_engagement_8-10-17.pdf.
- Rear Admiral **Mark Buzby**, USN, Ret. was sworn in as US Maritime Administrator by Secretary of Transportation **Elaine Chao** on August 16, 2017.
- The US Coast Guard recently completed the migration of web content to a new, more secure server. You can view a list of updated hyperlinks at <http://mariners.coastguard.dodlive.mil/2017/10/06/1062017-updated-hyperlinks-for-frequently-visited-coast-guard-web-sites/>.

Reminder —

Keep your email address up to date with your local lodge Secretary. It's the best way to receive your ISMA Letter (and other notices) promptly. Local secretaries distribute ISMA Letter via email.



ISMA Website:

If you don't know how to log into the members-only section of the ISMA website, contact your local lodge president or secretary. Note that the password is case-sensitive.



November 10, 2017 -

18th Annual Lost Mariners
Remembrance Ceremony,
6-8 PM, Dossin Museum,
Belle Isle, Detroit

November 11, 2017 -

Veterans Day (US)/Remembrance Day (Canada)
ISMA lays CMNVA wreath at
Owen Sound Cenotaph

November 12, 2017 -

Annual Great Lakes Memorial Service, 11 AM
Mariners' Church, Detroit

November 18, 2017 -

37th Annual Marine Mart, St. Clair Shores, MI

November 26, 2017 -

William Hamilton Merritt Day - Welland Canal

December 1, 2017 -

179th Annual Grunt Club Dinner, Montreal

January 18, 2018 -

Chamber of Marine Commerce Annual Luncheon,
Toronto

January 19, 2018 -

78th Annual Marine Club Dinner, Toronto

February 2-4, 2018 -

ISMA Grand Lodge Convention, Toledo, OH

February 11, 2018 -

Annual Mariners Service and Blessing of the Great
Lakes Fleet, 10 AM, St. George's Anglican
Church, Owen Sound

February 17, 2018 -

Detroit Lodge #7 127th Annual Dinner Dance,
Clinton Township, MI

March 11, 2018 -

Annual Blessing of the Fleet, 11 AM
Mariners' Church, Detroit

April 22, 2018 -

Navy League Sunday, 11 AM
Mariners' Church, Detroit

May 6, 2018 -

Battle of the Atlantic Sunday, WW II Remembrance
at Owen Sound Cenotaph

May 22, 2018 -

National Maritime Day (US)

June 25, 2018 -

International Day of the Seafarer

Boat Trip Raffles

Visit www.freightertrip.com for the latest news about ISMA boat trip raffles.



Salute Your Fellow Members with the
SHIP MASTERS' SALUTE:
3 Long, 1 Short

International Ship Masters' Association

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